

What is claimed is:

1. A method for training a trainee to assign to a media entity at least one value corresponding to at least one fundamental property of the type of media entity, comprising:
rendering definitional classification information to the trainee to educate the trainee as
5 to the nature of said at least one fundamental property;

first assigning by at least one expert at least one expert-assigned value to said at least one fundamental property of the media entity;

second assigning by said trainee at least one trainee-assigned value to said at least one fundamental property of the media entity after said rendering, said at least one trainee-
10 assigned value equal in number to said at least one expert-assigned value;

comparing the at least one trainee-assigned values to the corresponding at least one expert-assigned values; and

determining based on said comparing a first group of said at least one fundamental properties for which said trainee is qualified to code values for new media entities.
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2. The method for training according to claim 1, wherein said comparing includes comparing, value by value, the at least one trainee-assigned values to the corresponding at least one expert-assigned values.

20 3. The method for training according to claim 1, further including determining based on said comparing a second group of said at least one fundamental properties for which said trainee is not qualified to code values for new media entities.

4. The method for training according to claim 3, further including redoing the rendering,
25 first assigning, second assigning, comparing and determining for fundamental properties of the second group until all properties in said second group are in said first group.

5. The method for training according to claim 4, wherein when all fundamental properties are in said first group, said trainee is a groover for all fundamental properties.

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6. The method for training according to claim 1, wherein the media entities are one of

songs and song segments.

7. The method for training according to claim 6, wherein said definitional information includes definitional information about rhythm, zing and mood.

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8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said definitional information for rhythm comprises definitional information for tempo, a time signature, rhythm description, rhythm type and rhythmic activity.

10 9. The method according to claim 7, wherein said definitional information for zing comprises definitional information for consonance, density, melodic movement and weight.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein said definitional information for mood comprises definitional information for emotional intensity, mood and mood description.

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11. The method for training according to claim 1, wherein said rendering includes rendering said definitional classification information to the trainee via the Web.

12. The method for training according to claim 1, wherein said comparing includes performing statistical analysis on said at least one trainee-assigned values and said at least one expert-assigned values.

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13. The method for training according to claim 12, wherein said comparing includes calculating correlations between said at least one trainee-assigned values and said at least one expert-assigned values.

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14. The method for training according to claim 6, wherein said comparing includes at least one of 1) taking a batch of songs and calculating correlation scores across a set of specified fundamental properties 2) taking a batch of songs and calculating the percentage of songs in which the expert raters and trainee are within plus/minus one classification scaling from each other across a set of specified fundamental properties and 3) examining

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song-by-song every property for that song, with co-listening and discussion of what is heard via the definition parameters provided for each fundamental property.

15. The method for training according to claim 6, wherein said comparing includes at least one of comparing with a statistical analysis and comparing with a non-statistical analysis.

16. The method for training according to claim 1, wherein said trainee is authorized to code new media entities for said first group of said at least one fundamental properties.

17. The method for training according to claim 6, wherein said rendering of said definitional information includes rendering at least one of a song segment and song to said trainee, said at least one of a song segment and song serving as at least one example of said at least one fundamental property.

18. The method for training according to claim 17, wherein said example at least one of a song segment and songs are selected from a playlist generating engine capable of matching songs to the at least one fundamental property.

19. A computer readable medium bearing computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 1.

20. A modulated data signal carrying computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

21. A computing device comprising means for performing the method of claim 1.

22. A computing system for training a trainee to classify music, comprising:
a computing device including:

a display for rendering definitional classification information to the trainee to educate the trainee as to the nature of at least one fundamental music property; and

audio rendering means for rendering at least one of a song segment and song to said trainee, said at least one of a song segment and song serving as at least one example of said at least one fundamental property;

means for receiving from a trainee classification data for classifying a training song;

means for analyzing said classification data; and

means for determining whether said trainee is qualified to enter classification data for said at least one fundamental music property.

23. The computing system for training according to claim 22, wherein said means for analyzing includes means for comparing said classification data to known classification data for said training song.

24. The computing system for training according to claim 23, wherein said means for comparing includes means for performing statistical analysis on said at least one trainee assigned values and said at least one expert-assigned values.

25. The computing system for training according to claim 24, wherein said means for comparing includes means for calculating correlations between said at least one trainee-assigned values and said at least one expert-assigned values.

26. The computing system for training according to claim 22, wherein said definitional information includes definitional information about rhythm, zing and mood.

27. The computing system according to claim 26, wherein said definitional information for rhythm comprises definitional information for tempo, a time signature, rhythm description, rhythm type and rhythmic activity.

28. The computing system according to claim 26, wherein said definitional information for zing comprises definitional information for consonance, density, melodic movement and weight.

29. The computing system according to claim 26, wherein said definitional information for mood comprises definitional information for emotional intensity, mood and mood description.

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30. A method for training a trainee to analyze music in order to recognize and assess the fundamental musical properties thereof, the method comprising:

a. providing a trainee with a list of fundamental musical properties grouped into three main areas: rhythm, zing and mood;

10 b. providing the trainee with written definitions for the three main areas: rhythm, zing and mood;

c. selecting one of the three main areas: rhythm, zing and mood;

d. providing the trainee with a list of song examples organized by classification level;

15 e. playing to the trainee the song examples one-by-one, progressing through each classification level;

f. repeating the preceding steps c, d and e for the remaining two of the three main areas: rhythm, zing and mood;

g. playing songs to the trainee and a previously trained listener;

20 h. permitting the trainee and the previously trained listener to code the songs according to the three main areas: rhythm, zing and mood;

i. permitting the trainee and the previously trained listener to code the songs according to the classification level; and

25 j. comparing the results produced by the trainee with the results produced by the trained listener.